

MEDICAL OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR 1946

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my 27th Annual Report on the Public Health and Sanitary Administration of your district.

This report is brief and is according to instructions received from the Ministry of Health in their circular 13/47 dated 13th March, 1947.

I have the honour to remain

Your obedient servant,

A. H. WILSON,

Victoria Road, Salisbury.

Medical Officer of Health.

VITAL STATISTICS

Population—Census 1931 : 16,883

Population—Estimated Mid. 1946—13,430

Area : 63,464 Acres

Rateable Value : £134,015

Sum represented by Penny Rate : £580 : 2 : 10

Number of Inhabited Houses as shown by Rate Books end of 1946 : 3257

Births, 1946	Male	Female	Total
Live	159	164	323 (23 Illegitimate)
Still	5	5	10 (2 Illegitimate)

Birth Rate, 1946	England and Wales
Live	24.0
Still	0.75
	Live 19.1
	Still 0.55

Birth Rate	Average last 10 years	21.28
England and Wales	„ „ 10 „	15.87

Deaths : Males	57	Females	65	Total	122
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Death Rate	9.08	Average last 10 years	9.8
England and Wales	11.5	„ „ 10 years	12.1

Number of deaths of infants under one year of age : Males 5  
Females 7 Total 12

Infantile Mortality Rate (per 1,000 Live Births)	37.2
England and Wales	43.0
Infantile Mortality Average last 10 years	40.0
England and Wales „ „ 10 years	52.0

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Disease	Total Cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total death
Scarlet Fever	22 (2 Mil)	16 (2 Mil)	0
Diphtheria	2 (2 Mil)	2 (2 Mil)	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	4	3	0
Pneumonia	4	3	0
Erysipelas	1	1	0
Measles	52 (4 Mil)	4 (4 Mil)	0
Whooping Cough	8	0	0
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	2 (2 Mil)	2 (2 Mil)	0
Opthalmia Neonatorum	1	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	1	0

**Scarlet Fever.** Actually 26 cases were notified to me and 19 of these including the military cases were sent to Hospital, but four of them turned out to be either German Measles or at any rate not scarlet fever. All were sporadic cases fairly distributed throughout the year and the disease never became epidemic.

**Diphtheria.** Two non-civilian cases were notified at the beginning of the year, in fact three cases, but one proved not to be the disease. Three other cases were admitted to Hospital as a precautionary measure, but all proved to have negative swabs and not to be the disease. Thus the District was free from the disease and this is the second year in succession that this has been the case.

**Puerperal Pyrexia.** Four cases were notified and all went to Hospital except one which was nursed at the home where she was confined. All completely recovered.

**Pneumonia.** Only four cases were notified to me and of these three were notified by the Military and treated in the Military Families' Hospital, but as they were females they count as civilians, the fourth case was one associated with measles and notified as such. None of these cases died. This means that no case of Pneumonia was notified to me by the civilian practitioners during the year. The Registrar-General gives the deaths from this disease as one male and three females: the former had not been notified to me while the three latter died in Salisbury Infirmary though living in the Amesbury District and were thus consigned to the district. They had not been notified to me

**Erysipelas** Only one case was notified and this was by the Military in a female and treated in their Hospital.

**Measles.** 52 cases were notified including three non-civilians who were treated in Military Hospitals, only one civilian child was sent to our Hospital and this was from an institution. Really not many cases for a district this size, but I am not certain that all the cases arising were notified to me.

**Whooping Cough.** Only eight cases were notified during the whole year and six of these were notified by one Doctor between the 19th and 26th of January and the two other cases were also notified by one other practitioner on Jan. 26th. I cannot think that no other cases arose in the whole of the district during the rest of the year.

**Cerebro-Spinal Fever.** Two cases were notified to me but as they were both non-civilian cases and treated in the Military Hospital I do not know the result.

**Acute-Poliomyelitis.** One case in a child aged 11 was notified in August by the Salisbury Infirmary authorities and was afterwards taken in hand by the County under their scheme.

**Ophthalmia Neonatorum.** The one case was treated by the Doctor privately.

**Tuberculosis.** 21 cases of all sorts were notified which is one less than last year and the year before.

Of these, four were transfers from other places and four were discharges from the services. Three of the cases left the district before the end of the year.

	Notifications were		
Male Pulmonary	5	between	20-25
	4	„	25-35
	2	„	35-45
	2	„	45-55
	1	„	55-65
Female Pulmonary	2	„	15-20
	1	„	20-25
	2	„	25-35
	1	„	55-65
Male Pulmonary	1	„	20-25
The Deaths were			
Male Pulmonary	1	„	44-55
Female Pulmonary	2	„	25-35

The Male Pulmonary case was an inward transferable death which had not been notified to me.

**IMMUNISATION.**

During the year 113 under 5 years and 13 between 5 and 15 were Immunised against Diphtheria and in addition 132 received a secondary reinforcing injection. This makes a grand total since the commencement of the campaign of 1,141 under 5 and 1,808 between 5 and 15 and in addition 132 reinforcement doses.



## RODENT CONTROL

The work of infestation control was carried out as usual, although, in this rural area, where most of the acreage comes under the War Agricultural Committee or the Service Departments, the work entailed was not very great.

### SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE DISTRICT

	No. of Inspections	No. of Defects	Informal Notices	Statutory Notices	Remedied by 3	Remedied by 4	Remedied after verbal instructions only
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Nuisances ...	223	41	20	1	15	1	21
Slaughter-houses ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Knackers' yards ...	10	—	—	—	—	—	—
Places where food is prepared ...	90	4	1	—	1	—	3
Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkstores ...	375	53	16	—	16	—	37
Butchers' shops ...	22	2	2	—	2	—	—
Tents, Vans, Sheds etc.	14	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bakehouses ...	36	8	3	—	3	—	5
	770	108	42	1	37	1	66

#### *Not classified above*

Housing Inspections ...	...	...	...	...	654
Infectious diseases ...	...	...	...	...	49
Unclassified Visits and Inspections (drainage refuse collection, bye-laws etc)	...	...	...	...	838
Total No. of Visits ...	...	...	...	...	2311

### MILK AND DAIRIES ETC

Number of wholesale producers registered 1946 ...	...	83
Number of Retail Purveyors Registered 1946 ...	...	40
Number of Certificates Issued (Producers) during 1946 ...	...	6
Number of Certificates Issued (Retailers) during 1946 ...	...	—

## MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

Tinned Meat	...	...	...	...	456 lbs.
Tinned Milk	...	...	...	...	1436 tins
Tinned Vegetables	...	...	...	...	3 tins
Tinned Fish	...	...	...	...	128 tins
Tinned Beans	...	...	...	...	293 tins
Dried Fruits	...	...	...	...	4325 lbs.
Bacon	...	...	...	...	154 lbs.
Beef	...	...	...	...	210 lbs.

## FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Number on Register	...	...	...	...	39
Number of Inspections	...	...	...	...	57
Number of cases in which defects were found	...	...	...	...	7
Remedied by Verbal Notice	...	...	...	...	4
Remedied by Informal Notice	...	...	...	...	1
No. outworkers employed	...	...	...	...	Nil

## TOTAL CAUSES OF DEATH

Causes of Death	M.	F.	Causes of Death	M.	F.
All Causes	57	65	Appendicitis		
Typhoid and Paratyphoid			Other digest. diseases	1	2
Cerebro-spinal Fever			Nephritis	2	3
Scarlet Fever			Puerp. and postabort. sepsis		
Whooping Cough			Other maternal causes		
Diphtheria			Premature birth	2	3
Tuberc. of Respir. syst.	1	2	Cong. malf. birth. inj. Inf. dis.	2	1
Other form of Tuberc.			Suicide	1	
Syphilitic Diseases	1		Road Traffic Act	3	1
Influenza	1	1	Other violent causes		3
Measles			All other causes	5	5
Ac. Poliomyelitis and Enceph.			Deaths of Infants under 1 year—		
Ac. Inf. Enceph.			Total	5	7
Cancer of b. cav; and			Legitimate	4	7
oesoph (M.)		1	Illegitimate	1	
uterus (F.)			Live Births		
Cancer of stomach and			Total	159	164
duodenum		1	Legitimate	147	153
Cancer of breast		4	Illegitimate	12	11
Cancer of all other sites	4	7	Stillbirths		
Diabetes	1	1	Total	5	5
Intra. cran. vasc. lesions	9	5	Legitimate	4	4
Heart disease	12	11	Illegitimate		2
Other dis. of circ. syst.	3	5	Population	1,3430	
Bronchitis	5	4			
Pneumonia	1	3			
Other Resp. diseases	3				
Ulcer of stomach & duodenum		1			
Diarrhœa under two years					